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REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-10, 12-18 and 29, 30, and 32-37 remain pending in the instant application. Claims 1-18 and 29-37 presently stand rejected. Claims 1, 3, 10, 12, 29, 32, 33, and 35 are amended herein. Claims 2, 11, and 31 are cancelled herein. Entry of this amendment and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Specification

Paragraph [0036] of the Specification has been amended to cure an inadvertent typographical error. The correction is believed to introduce no new matter.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-6, 8-15, 17-18, 29-35, and 37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Datta (US 6,081,890). Claims 1, 10 and 29 have been amended to include all the limitations of their respective dependent claims 2, 11, and 31. Since only the limitations of dependent claims have been incorporated into their respective independent claims, Applicants kindly assert that no new search is required. Also, since claims 2, 11, and 31 have been cancelled, the rejection with regards to these three claims is moot.

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element of the claim is found in a single reference. M.P.E.P. § 2131 (citing *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628 (Fed. Cir. 1987)). “The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim.” M.P.E.P. § 2131 (citing *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1989)).

Claim 1, as amended, includes transitioning from the native mode runtime to a legacy mode runtime in response to receiving the legacy type hardware IRQ. Datta fails to disclose transitioning from native mode to legacy mode in response to receiving a legacy type hardware IRQ. Instead, Datta teaches that the native environment virtualizes the legacy environment by copying firmware to the system memory and replicating entry points and address ranges of the IA-32 BIOS within the IA-64 environment. Column 6, lines 11-26. Datta then discloses that mode switching is eliminated by deleting functions from the legacy firmware. Column 6, lines 40-51. Lastly, Datta discloses that interrupts

are processed in the virtualized legacy mode provided by the native mode. Column 7, lines 10-11. Thus, the processor, of Datta, is still operating in a native mode runtime when the interrupt is processed and no transition from native mode runtime to legacy mode runtime has occurred.

Since Datta discloses processing legacy type hardware interrupts in a native mode, Datta fails to disclose transitioning from the native mode runtime to a legacy mode runtime in response to receiving a legacy type IRQ. Thus, Datta fails to disclose each and every element of claim 1, as required under M.P.E.P. § 2131. Independent claims 10 and 29, as amended, include similar novel elements as independent claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants request that the instant §102 rejections of claims 1, 10 and 29 be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 7, 13 and 36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Datta.

The dependent claims are novel and nonobvious over the prior art of record for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with their respective independent claims, in addition to adding further limitations of their own. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the instant §102 and §103 rejections of the dependent claims be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants believe the applicable rejections have been overcome and all claims remaining in the application are presently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned representative at (206) 292-8600 if the Examiner believes that an interview might be useful for any reason.

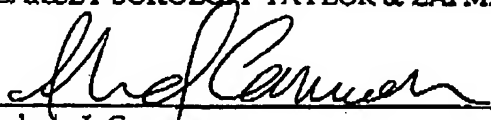
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CHARGE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

It is not believed that extensions of time are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). Any fees required therefore are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-2666. Please credit any overpayment to the same deposit account.

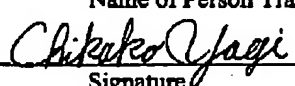
Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: 10/19/06

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